



INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

August 23, 2012

California Department of Water Resources
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management
Financial Assistance Branch
PO Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001
Attn: Joe Yun

Dear Mr. Yun:

We are writing on behalf of the Inyo-Mono IRWM region Program Office in response to the Round 2 Planning Grant preliminary funding recommendations. First off, we would like to thank DWR for its funding recommendation of \$480,270 to support our Round 2 Planning Grant proposal. We appreciate DWR's ongoing willingness to work with our region and look forward to continuing work on our IRWM process through Proposition 84 funding.

We would like to provide some response to the evaluation of the Inyo-Mono Round 2 Planning Grant proposal. We are not seeking a change to the funding recommendation, but we would like to provide comments for the record. Overall, the evaluation did not provide sufficient detail to understand what was missing or otherwise inadequate. We would appreciate further information with respect to each point of the evaluation so that we may learn what is expected for future proposals.

Work Plan

Evaluation (paraphrased): Not all Plan Standards are addressed in proposal; linkages between tasks and Plan Standards are not clear

Response:

- In general, we feel that we met the requirements of this criterion but understand that we could have provided more detail in certain places. It would be helpful to have more direction in the PSP as to what constitutes "sufficient detail" in the tasks contained in the Work Plan.
- Four of the tasks (chapters) are Plan Standards themselves (3: Climate Change, 4: Data Management; 5: Finance; 6: Integration).
- We state twice that Task 6 will help our IRWM Plan better meet all Plan Standards (pages 7 and 43). The Impacts & Benefits and Coordination Plan Standards are not specifically called out in the list of Plan Standards being addressed because it fell neither in the "already well addressed" category nor the "receiving specific emphasis in Round

2” category. Those Plan Standards that need the most work are specifically recognized in the proposal, but all Plan Standards will be addressed through Task 6.

- Table 1 (p. 10) lists all of the Plan Standards and links all parts (chapters) of the proposal to each of the Plan Standards.
- The evaluation states that the task descriptions are “vague” but does not give examples of what would constitute “sufficient detail”. In writing the proposal, we aimed to meet the requirements of the “Grant Work Plan Content” of the Work Plan in the Round 2 Planning Grant PSP. More information in the PSP (and perhaps an example) on what constitutes “sufficient detail” would be helpful in future PSPs (including Implementation proposals).

DAC Involvement

Evaluation (paraphrased): Tasks do not address how the region will support continued participation of DACs; only one mention of including DACs in planning process

Response:

- We understand that we could have made the linkages between the tasks in the Work Plan and specific involvement of DACs more explicit throughout the proposal. However, we do feel that DAC involvement is heavily emphasized throughout the proposal and provide examples below.
- Specific information on DAC involvement is discussed in the introduction to the Work Plan (p. 8). Here, continued participation of DACs in RWMG and Administrative Committee meetings is discussed, as well as specific outreach to be done to DACs regarding the climate change, data management, and finance tasks.
- Other references to DAC participation through the Round 2 Planning Grant can be found in Tasks 2.A.4. (p. 21), 2.B.2.1. (p. 23), 2.B.3.2. (p. 25), 2.D.4. (p. 35), and the Budget Narrative (p. 2).
- The description of the West Walker project (p. 22) indicates that Antelope Valley is a DAC and that there will be several community meetings there (p. 23).
- The Invasive Plant Inventory lists 14 identified DACs (p. 31; more using the more updated American Community Survey data) that will benefit from the project and that will be given access to the data collected through the project.

Budget

Evaluation (paraphrased): The budget lacks supporting documentation to establish the basis of estimates; the review questions the calculations for the O&A expenses and states that the amount of O&A in the budget is not supported by the Work Plan.

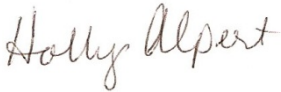
Response:

- We agree that we could have provided more description in the “Other Costs” category, and we will provide this detail in the Grant Agreement.

- Again, we sought to meet the requirements for this criterion as they were understood from the PSP. More detail and/or examples of what kinds of supporting documentation would provide sufficient justification for the budget is sought from DWR.
- It was not clear from the PSP that we needed to provide justification or narrative for the O&A line item.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in response to the evaluation of our proposal and look forward to continuing and furthering our work with DWR and other IRWM regions.

Most Sincerely,



Holly Alpert
Program Manager, Inyo-Mono IRWMP



Mark Drew
Program Director, Inyo-Mono IRWMP
Program Manager, California Trout Eastern Sierra Office